

Frye Lights

A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilmember Donna Frye



September 2004

Volume 11, Issue 5



**Proudly Serving
the District Six
Communities of:**

Bay Ho

Bay Park

Birdland

Clairemont

De Anza

Kearny Mesa

Linda Vista

Mission Valley

Mission Village

Morena

Serra Mesa

Stonecrest

A Message From the Desk of Councilmember Donna Frye

On November 2, you will be asked to vote on a variety of ballot measures. One of those measures is Proposition F, also known as the "Strong Mayor" proposal.

For more than 70 years, San Diego has operated under a Council-Manager form of government. The Mayor and City Councilmembers are elected by the voters and are responsible to and held accountable by the public. The City Manager is hired by and can be fired by the Mayor and City Council majority.

It is the duty of the City Manager to implement the policies voted on and approved by the Mayor and City Council majority. The City Manager does not have a vote and cannot implement public policy without the consent of the Mayor and Council majority. How well the city is run depends upon the quality of the elected officials and the qualifications of the appointed Manager, who answers to the public through the Mayor and Council.

The Mayor and five City Councilmembers voted to place the "Strong Mayor" measure on the ballot. I did not support the proposal, because I believe that it is not in the public's best interest to give so much power to one politician. I do not agree with the argument presented in favor of

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Councilmember Frye Celebrates Clairemont Family Day

On August 7, 2004, hundreds of San Diegans turned out for the 15th annual Clairemont Family Day at the South Clairemont Recreation Center. Councilmember Frye helped kick off the event and presented long-time community volunteer John Coffman with a commendation for his hard work maintaining local open space throughout our District Six canyons (see Community Leader Highlight, page 3). The theme for this year's community Family Day was "Clairemont Canyons and Open Space," and visitors lined up to have fun on the carnival rides

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Councilmember Donna Frye talks with members of the Police Department's Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol during the August 7 Clairemont Family Day festivities.

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Councilmember Frye and Urban Corps Plant Trees in Serra Mesa Park

On Thursday, July 15, 2004, Councilmember Frye helped the Urban Corps in planting a grove of trees at Serra Mesa Park. The Urban Corps



Councilmember Frye and the Urban Corps plant trees at Serra Mesa Park.

celebrated their 15th anniversary of service to the youth and communities of San Diego by planting a grove of trees in each San Diego City Council District throughout the month of July. Urban Corps of San Diego is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide educational opportunities along with hands on job training to the youth of San Diego in the fields of community service, conservation and recycling. This valuable program provides our young people with essential employment skills while at the same time preserving our community's natural resources. Thank you, Urban Corps!

Clairemont Family Day Continued

and enjoy the arts and crafts and live music from local bands. Clairemont Family Day gives residents the great opportunity to come out and support our local businesses and organizations.

Thanks to the Clairemont Recreation Council, the Clairemont Town Council, the Clairemont Chamber of Commerce and all the terrific community volunteers who make this event possible each year. We can hardly wait for next year!



Councilmember Frye with Miss Clairemont and Miss Teen Clairemont.

Here Comes the Serra Mesa Community Fair

Councilmember Frye will be hosting a booth at the fifth annual Serra Mesa Community Fair on Saturday, September 18. The theme of this year's fair is "Taking It to the Streets," because for the first time the festivities will take place on the streets surrounding Rancho Serra Mesa Shopping Center (Greyling Drive between Larkdale Avenue and Sandrock Road, and Sandrock to Murray Ridge Road). Residents, community groups, churches, schools, youth and sports groups and businesses are invited to rent space to provide information, sponsor games or sell products.

Councilmember Frye is looking forward to seeing Serra Mesa residents at the fair, which will open on September 18 at 10 a.m. and close at 6 p.m. Activities planned for the fair include carnival rides, a craft fair, live bands, local San Diego performers, raffle drawings, clowns, face painting and lots of food and entertainment.

For more information about the fair, please contact the Serra Mesa Community Council, co-sponsor of the fair, at (858) 565-2473 or (858) 279-7287.

New Chief of Staff in District 6 Office

Steve Hadley, who represented Clairemont for Councilmember Frye back in 2001-2002, has returned. Steve has taken over Michael Simonsen's position as Chief of Staff for Councilmember Frye and is looking forward to working on key issues that are important to District Six constituents. Michael Simonsen will be deeply missed.



Steve Hadley

A Fond Farewell, Meredith McFadden

Meredith McFadden, who represented De Anza, Mission Bay and Serra Mesa for the past three years, has left the District Six office to pursue her Master's Degree at American University in Washington D.C. Council Representative John Lamb, who recently joined District Six after a two-decade journalism career, will now be handling Serra Mesa.



A Message From the Desk of Councilmember Donna Frye Continued

"Strong Mayor" that concentrating political power in one elected office and suspending our City Charter for a five-year "trial run" will make our government more accountable or more efficient. It is my opinion that Prop. F will only make our government more political.

Prop. F does not make government more accountable. The way this plan is written, the "Strong Mayor" would have broad veto power over a majority City Council vote, even though he would no longer vote at or preside over City Council meetings. The "Strong Mayor" would, however, preside over closed session meetings. Prop. F denies the public the right to address the Mayor at open and public City Council hearings, yet it gives the Mayor control over closed sessions, outside of public view.

The "Strong Mayor" proposal will not make government more efficient. Under Prop. F ? even though the duties and responsibilities of the City Manager would be transferred to the "Strong Mayor" ? there would still be a City Manager. The difference is, the "Strong Mayor" would become the City Manager's boss. The Boss Mayor would have sole authority to direct the City Manager and would be the only one who could fire the City Manager, regardless of the wishes of a City Council majority.

Prop. F will make our city government more political and have a negative impact on the City Council's ability to deliver basic city services to neighborhoods. For example, imagine that the City Council majority votes to enact a measure that the Boss Mayor opposes. The Boss Mayor vetoes the City Council majority, but the Council overrides that veto. It will now be left to the City Manager to carry out the will of the City Council majority, knowing full well that the Boss Mayor opposes the measure and is the only person who can fire him. The City Manager is placed in the awkward position of working against his Boss in order to carry out the public interest.

Prop. F will make government more political and less accountable to you, the voters. While it's true that reform is needed, this is not the way to accomplish it. The Boss Mayor form of government is a flawed scheme that will only add to our problems. We need a more open government that serves the public interest, not a more political government that gives more power to one politician at the public's expense.

Please take the time to read the ballot measures and decide for yourself. The City of San Diego ballot measures are available on the City Clerk's website at www.sandiego.gov/city-clerk/election.shtml. If you do not have access to a computer, please call my office at

(619) 236-6616, and we will provide information to you. If you have moved recently or are not registered to vote, please contact the County Registrar of Voters at 1-800-696-0136 or www.sdvote.com.

Remember to exercise your political power by voting on November 2. Your vote does make a difference, and will help make our community an even better place in which to live, work and play. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Community Leader Highlight -John Coffman-

When John Coffman moved to San Diego from the East Coast 30 years ago, he immediately fell in love with the local canyons and open space. For the last nine years, he has been generous with his time by volunteering to help maintain some of those special places. Each week, John can be found helping out at a number of community parks, including Tecolote, Marion Bear as well as Rose Canyon.



In recognition of John's service to the community and his efforts to improve the

In August, Councilmember Frye presented John Coffman with a special commendation recognizing nine years of volunteer work maintaining local open space and canyons.

quality of life for all residents of Clairemont and the City of San Diego, Councilmember Frye proclaimed August 7, 2004, to be "John Coffman Day" in District 6.

Councilmember Frye is grateful to all volunteers, like John, who dedicate countless hours of their time so that others can appreciate the true beauty of San Diego's natural resources. Thank you, John!



In Remembrance of Councilmember Lewis

On August 8, the City of San Diego lost a true friend of the people. District Four Councilmember Charles L. Lewis III died unexpectedly at the age of 37, leaving behind his wife, parents, and scores of family members and friends who knew Charles as a tireless fighter for the constituents of Council District Four. A memorial fund has been established in his honor. Checks may be sent to: The Charles L. Lewis III Memorial Fund, Account 0983651946, Washington Mutual, 4415 Imperial Ave., Suite A, San Diego, CA 92113.



Councilmember Charles Lewis

Need a Passport? Check Out Your Local Community Service Center

Did you know that your neighborhood City of San Diego Community Service Center can process United States passport applications?

The Clairemont Community Service Center staff can process passport applications for all United States citizens who have never been issued a passport. Located at 4731 Clairemont Drive, in the Clairemont Town Square Shopping Center, the Service Center staff can also process applications for individuals whose latest passport was issued more than 15 years ago, or whose valid passport has been lost or stolen, or whose most recent passport was issued when the applicant was under 16 years of age. Passport renewal applications are also available.

Applications, including renewals for children under 14 years of age, must be accompanied by an original birth certificate or a certified copy or an original naturalization certificate. Applicants need to be present to apply. Fees and any additional requirements can be found on the Clairemont Community Service Center's web site at www.sannet.gov/servicecenters/locations/clairemont.shtml.

Passport processing hours are Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information, call the Service Center team at (858) 581-4111.

- Frye Bytes -

Recent Quotes of Note

"We believe it's OK to streamline the bureaucracy, but not at the expense of democracy."

— Speaking before Gov. Schwarzenegger's California Performance Review Commission, which has proposed eliminating the San Diego River Conservancy.

"Our children should not be used as little lead detectors."

— Supporting a restrictive lead-paint ordinance Frye co-sponsored that recently gained approval of the city's Land Use & Housing Committee.

"... I respectfully request that the City Council be called from legislative recess to a special session so that the Council District Four constituents may be heard, a timely vote taken on this issues, and due process not denied at this time of community grief."

— August 12, 2004, memo from Councilmember Frye to Mayor Murphy.

And a few famous quotes with the November 2 election in mind . . .

"Always vote for principle, though you may vote alone, and you may cherish the sweetest reflection that your vote is never lost."

— John Quincy Adams, 6th U.S. President

"The ignorance of one voter in a democracy impairs the security of all."

— John F. Kennedy, 35th U.S. President

"In politics, we presume that everyone who knows how to get votes knows how to administer a city or a state. When we are ill . . . We do not ask for the handsomest physician, or the most eloquent one."

— Plato, Greek philosopher

"The ballot is stronger than the bullet."

— Abraham Lincoln, 16th U.S. President



California Coastal Cleanup Day Celebrates 20 Years on September 18

It's time again to mark your calendar for the largest single-day volunteer experience that benefits the marine environment. The 20th annual California Coastal Cleanup Day will be held September 18 throughout the state.

Last year, nearly 48,000 volunteers cleaned up more than 340 tons of trash from more than 600 beaches and waterways in California. Countywide, 4,650 volunteers plucked more than 56 tons of debris from 113 miles of shoreline at roughly 60 coastal and inland sites.

For more information, contact co-sponsor I Love A Clean San Diego at 619-291-0103, ext. 3003.

Jewish Community Foundation Day

Councilmember Frye proclaimed July 12, 2004, as "Jewish Community Foundation Day." The Jewish Community Foundation was established in 1967 with a mission to promote phi-



Councilmember Frye, Mayor Murphy, and Jewish Community Foundation representatives proclaimed July 12, 2004, as "Jewish Community Foundation Day."

lanthropy as an essential part of assuring a vibrant and secure community. They have awarded hundreds of millions of dollars in grants in support of both Jewish and general community organizations in San Diego, across the nation and around the world. After the devastating San Diego wildfires of October 2003, the Jewish Community Foundation created the Jewish Community Disaster Fund designed to mobilize and quickly provide assistance to those impacted by the wildfires. This year, the Jewish Community Disaster Fund awarded \$50,000 to the San Diego Fire Department to help provide vital equipment and services. This donation was greatly appreciated, which is why July 12, 2004, was declared as "Jewish Community Foundation Day."

Lead-Safe Housing Ordinance Scheduled for September Council Vote

In a major effort to protect children from lead poisoning, the city's Land Use and Housing Committee on August 4 unanimously approved the "Children's Right to Lead-Safe Housing" ordinance, an initiative strongly backed by Councilmember Frye.

The committee vote came after more than two years of intense work by the city's Lead Poisoning Prevention Citizens Advisory Task Force, which was co-chaired by Councilmembers Frye and Ralph Inzunza of District Eight. The full City Council is scheduled to vote on the ordinance in September.

The ordinance, if passed by the City Council, will require that:

- Landlords and homeowners repair lead hazards.
- Peeling lead-based paint will constitute a Municipal Code violation requiring increased inspections and repair to prevent lead poisoning of children.
- Clear standards and guidelines are established for handling lead-based paint and banning unsafe work practices.
- Enforcement is strengthened should landlords and homeowners in San Diego refuse to comply.

Councilmember Frye noted that lead poisoning continues to be the greatest environmental health threat to children under the age of 6, particularly in San Diego's low-income communities.

"Our children should not be used as little lead detectors," Frye said in emphatically supporting the ordinance, which is intended to require that all pre-1978 housing in San Diego be made lead safe.

Walk to Cure Diabetes Set for October 16

The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation will hold its annual Walk to Cure Diabetes to raise funds for research in hopes of finding a cure for Type 1 insulin-dependent juvenile diabetes.

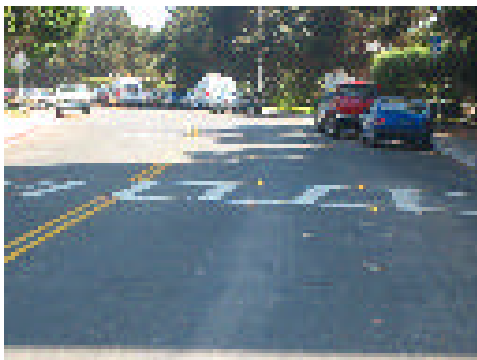
Registration for the walk, which will take place at De Anza Cove in Mission Bay Park, will begin at 7:30 a.m., and any participant raising \$100 or more will be eligible for a Walk to Cure Diabetes T-shirt. A party will be held afterwards.

For more information, visit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation website at www.jdfr-sandiego-news.org or call 858-597-0240.



Clairemont Celebrates City's First Lighted Crosswalk — and it's Solar!

Councilmember Frye is pleased to announce that San Diego's first lighted crosswalk was completed in Clairemont in August. In response to the community's growing concern that seniors from Sorrento Towers could not safely cross Cowley Way to the Keil's Shopping Center, we have come up with an excellent solution. Similar to flashing crosswalks in other cities, San Diego has used both electric and solar technologies to provide Clairemont residents with an easy-to-use crosswalk that blinks at night when a pedestrian activates the system. Motorists will clearly see the flashing lights as they approach the area, prompting them to stop and allow residents to safely cross. Councilmember Frye hopes this new safety measure will provide peace of mind for residents needing to access shopping and other services. Councilmember Frye's representative for western Clairemont, Keith Corry, will be happy to discuss any questions or comments you may have regarding the crosswalk. He can be reached at (619) 533-6463.



The city's first lighted crosswalk, now blinking across Cowley Way in Clairemont.

Some Voting Tips for Nov. 2 Election

(Excerpted from League of Women Voters Sept. 2004 newsletter)

1. Absentee ballots must be received at your elections office on or before 8 p.m. on Election Day.
2. If your name is not on the voting roll at your polling place, you have the right to cast a provisional ballot. You have the right to find out whether your provisional ballot was counted, and if not, why it was not eligible.
3. You have the right to cast a secret ballot free from intimidation.
4. If you make a mistake on your ballot prior to casting your ballot, you have the right to receive a new ballot.
5. You have the right to receive assistance in casting your ballot, if you need assistance.
6. Present and in line at the polling place before the polls close? You have the right to cast a ballot.
7. You have the right to report any illegal or fraudulent activity to a local elections official or the Secretary of State's Office. The Voter Protection Hotline can be reached at 1-800-345-VOTE.

Groundbreaking for Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa Library Set for October 9

At long last, ground is expected to be broken October 9 for the new — and highly anticipated — Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa Library on Aero Drive just south of Montgomery Field.

Councilmember Frye is scheduled to be joined by Mayor Dick Murphy and Councilmember Jim Madaffer for the 11 a.m. ceremony, as well as numerous community leaders from Serra Mesa and Kearny Mesa. Details of the festivities are still being finalized.

"Without the dedication and hard work of the community, this day would not be a reality," the councilmember said about the upcoming October 9 groundbreaking.



A model of the Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa Library. Construction is expected to begin in October, with completion slated for late 2005.

Construction on the library is scheduled to begin in October, with completion anticipated in October 2005. The 15,250-square-foot library will feature Green Building Technology and recycled materials.

At the community's request, the library architecture borrows from San Diego's classic Mission Revival and early 20th-century Craftsman styles, with most of the plentiful windows set deeply into thick walls and covered archways to shade them from the sun, enhancing comfort and saving energy.

The library will also feature three large courtyards that will be invitingly landscaped to take advantage of the views and sunshine.

Councilmember Frye thanks all those who worked tirelessly to make this long-awaited groundbreaking day more than just a dream. She urges residents to come and enjoy the moment!



Important Phone Numbers

Abandoned Vehicles	858 495-7856
Animal Regulation	619 236-4250
Beach & Bay Advisory	619 338-2073
Birth and Death Records	619 237-0502
Brush Abatement	619 533-4444
Building Permits	619 446-5000
Buses/MTS Access	619 233-3004
Canyon Watchers Program	858 292-6484
City Council Docket Info	619 533-4000
City Directory	619 236-5555
Community Service Center	858 581-4111
Code Violations	619 236-5500
Curb Maintenance	619 527-7500
Dead Animal Removal	858 694-7000
Dog Licenses	619 767-2675
Fire Stations	619 533-4300
Graffiti	619 525-8522
Hazardous Materials Hotline	858 694-7000
Housing Commission	619 231-9400
Humane Society	619 299-7012
Libraries	
Balboa	858 573-1390
Clairemont	858 581-9935
Linda Vista	858 573-1399
Mission Valley	858 573-5007
North Clairemont	858 581-9931
Serra Mesa	858 573-1396
Litter Control	858 492-5010
Noise Regulation	236-5500
Office of Small Business	685-1390
Park and Recreation	525-8219
Parking Citations	236-7145
Police: Non-Emergency	531-2000
Pot Hole Hotline	527-7500
Rec Centers	
Kearny Mesa	858 573-1387
Linda Vista	858 573-1392
North Clairemont	858 581-9926
Serra Mesa	858 573-1408
South Clairemont	858 581-9924
Tecolote	858 581-9930
Recycling Hotline	858 694-7000
Senior Citizens Services	619 236-6905
Sewer Repair/Spills	619 515-3525
Sidewalk Maintenance	619 527-7500
Stormwater Pollution Hotline	619 235-1000
Street Lights	619 527-7500
Street Sweeping	619 527-7500
Traffic Control	619 533-3126
Tree Maintenance	619 527-7500
Water Emergency	619 515-3525
Water Utilities	619 515-3500
Zoning Regulation Info	619 236-5555

District Six Community Meetings

Clairemont Town Council

Place: Clairemont High School Cafeteria,
4150 Ute Drive

When: 1st Thursday/ Month

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Clairemont Mesa Planning Committee

Place: Clairemont Friendship Senior Center,
4425 Bannock Ave.

When: 3rd Tuesday/ Month

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Kearny Mesa Planning Group

Place: National University,
9388 Light Wave # 114

When: 3rd Wednesday/ Month

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Linda Vista Civic Association

Place: Linda Vista Recreation Center,
7064 Levant Street

When: 3rd Thursday/ Month

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Linda Vista Planning Group

Place: Linda Vista Library,
2160 Ulric Street

When: 4th Monday/ Month

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Mission Bay Park Committee

Place: Rotating Venue

When: 1st Tuesday/Month

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Mission Valley Community Council

Place: Mission Valley Library,
2123 Fenton Parkway

When: 3rd Thursday/ Odd Months

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Mission Valley Unified Planning Committee

Place: Mission Valley Library,
2123 Fenton Parkway

When: 1st Wednesday/ Month

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Serra Mesa Community Council

Place: ARC, 9575 Aero Drive

When: 4th Wednesday/ Month

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Serra Mesa Planning Group

Place: Taft Junior High School,
9191 Gramercy Dr.

When: 3rd Thursday/ Month

Time: 7:00 p.m.



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Frye Lights: A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilmember Donna Frye



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*Mary Ann Kempczenski
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*Kevin Smith, Council Representative
Linda Vista, Morena*

*Keith Corry, Council Representative
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